

BLM Study Review of Hells Canyon Complex Studies

Cultural Resources Survey of Idaho Power Company Transmission Lines 906 and 912 Boise Bench to Midpoint Substation Ada, Elmore, Gooding, and Lincoln Counties, Idaho

Technical Report Appendix E.4-4

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1.INTRODUCTION

Idaho Power Company contracted Applied Paleoscience to conduct a cultural resource survey along the right-of-way for these two existing transmission lines to identify any cultural resources, to make an initial evaluation of those resources for the National Register of Historic Places, and to assess possible impacts to those cultural resources.

2.CONCLUSION

Applied Paleoscience completed a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the lines. They discussed known nearby sites and newly discovered resources. They made preliminary evaluations about site significance and discussed possible impacts including transmission line-related impacts.

3.STUDY ADEQUACY

Initial review indicates that the study meets BLM and State Historic Preservation Office standards. Smithsonian numbers have not been assigned to newly discovered resources yet.

This report meets goals set in Study Plan 8.4.1.

4.BLM CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CONCLUSIONS:

The survey was adequate, but minor typographical errors could be corrected. Additional coordination between BLM, SHPO and Idaho Power Company will be required to evaluate sites, assess impacts and consider possible mitigation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The BLM, SHPO and IPC need to discuss the significance, impacts and possible mitigation. The construction history of this line should be included in revisions of this report.

The contractor left sites AP97107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 113, 114, 202, 205, 207, 208 and 209 as unevaluated, while the BLM evaluates these sites as potentially eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. The BLM agrees with the contractor's evaluation that sites AP97117, 203, 206, and 210 are not eligible. The BLM agrees with the contractor's evaluation that all the isolated finds are not eligible to the National Register.